

Application No. 09/317,409
Amendment dated December 17, 2003
Reply to Office Action dated November 25, 2003

REMARKS

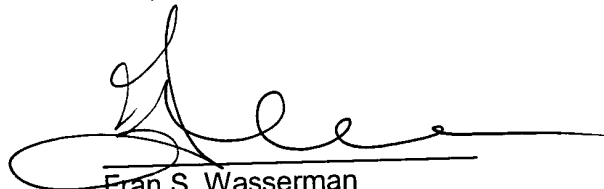
Claim 55 is amended to remove the language "in the absence of a tie down ply contacting the honeycomb core". A rejection under 35 USC §112, first paragraph of claim 55 for including this language was affirmed on appeal. Amendment of this claim to remove this language should therefore overcome this rejection.

Claim 55 is further amended for clarification purposes. Support for this amendment is found in the present specification on page 11, lines 30-34.

In view of the foregoing this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and allowance of claim 55 and 57-59 are thus earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner not yet consider this application in condition for allowance or have any question concerning this response, she is requested to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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